

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6132

BILL NUMBER: SB 32

DATE PREPARED: Nov 4, 2000

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Probation officers and handguns.

FISCAL ANALYST: Mark Goodpaster

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FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL**
 X DEDICATED
 FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires a probation officer to meet the following conditions before the probation officer is allowed to carry a handgun while on duty: (1) The court with jurisdiction over the probation officer must enter an order authorizing the probation officer to carry the handgun. (2) The probation officer must obtain a license to carry the handgun. (3) The probation officer must complete a certified handgun safety course.

It requires the Law Enforcement Training Board to adopt rules for certifying handgun safety courses that meet certain standards for training probation officers in handgun safety.

It also specifies that the tort claims act applies to a civil action arising out of an act within a probation officer's employment or duties. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Probation Services Study Committee.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: The Law Enforcement Training Board will incur negligible expense in approving the administrative rules specified in this bill. The Board operates with funding from the dedicated Law Enforcement Training Fund.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: Court-administered probation offices may choose to pay the cost of training their officers in the use of handguns. Staff at the Indiana Judicial Center report that probation officers in two or three counties in Indiana are known to carry handguns in the course of their duties.

Probation officer protection against civil actions as specified by this bill may limit the future costs of

monetary damage judgments that might be paid by courts.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Law Enforcement Training Board.

Local Agencies Affected: Courts and Probation Offices

Information Sources: